

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over JP 09-060047 ("Yasuda"), in view of US 2003/01544091 ("Adachi et al"), and further in view of various combinations of EP 0 642 589 ("Izumi"), DE 3 823 283 ("Takeuchi"), and USP 6,312,208 ("Duell et al").

Claim 11 has been allowed.

In order to expedite allowance of the present application, claims 1-10 have been canceled, and claims 12-17 have been added to depend from allowed independent claim 11. In addition, independent method claim 18, and claims 19-23 depending therefrom, have been added to recite the subject matter of claims 11-16 in method form.

No new matter has been added, and no new issues with respect to patentability have been raised.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered, and it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 11 and claims 12-17 depending therefrom, as well as new independent method claim 18 and claims 19-23 depending therefrom, are now all in condition for immediate allowance.

Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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